

Newport

Mercury.

ESTABLISHED JUNE 12, 1758.

VOLUME XCHI.

The Newport Mercury,

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GEO. C. MASON, EDITOR.

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ADVERTISEMENTS inserted at the LOWEST

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year.

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option of the Proprietors) until arrears are paid.

Poetry.

THE REASON WHY.

Why does Kate look so pale, mother?

Why are her arms so small?

Why does she never smile, mother?

Why does her eye-lids fall?

Why does she walk alone, mother?

As if she had no friend?

Why does she sigh so oft, mother?

Is she so near her end?

Why does she breathe so quick, mother?

And start, as if it shocked her,

To hear the quiet rap, mother,

Of Smith, the village doctor?

Why does he come so oft, mother?

Can he prolong her days?

By leaving gifts and gifts, mother,

And singing love sick lays?

Was but the other night, mother,

When Kate lay near my heart,

She urged me to be good, mother,

And said we soon must part.

She said she was to go, mother,

Away from home and me,

And leave paper and you, mother,

To dwell near by the sea.

Is it on Jordan's stormy banks, mother,

Where she is to be carried?

Shut up, shut up, you little brat—

She's going to be married!

THE CHILD'S PRAYER.

BY SIDNEY Dyer.

Alas! when I am so still so brief,

I scarce could sing a name,

My tongue was taunt the notes of grief,

For clouds of sorrow came;

And now I seek a mother's grave,

At every ev'ning;

Oh! could I have the bone I crave,

I'd slumber at her side.

I leave the birds that sing so sweet,

And flowers of richest bloom,

And all the pleasant friends I meet,

To weep beside her tomb,

The earth has many things to love,

And once I thought them fair,

But since my mother dwelt above,

It's brighter far up there.

Agriculture.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SAVING GARDEN

SEEDS.—When the seeds are ripe, gather

them without unnecessary delay; other-

wise the pods will split open, and their

contents be scattered upon the ground.—

Do not gather indiscriminately, but take

only the finest looking heads. By this se-

lection of the best plants and the best seed,

good varieties may be even improved, and

they certainly will not deteriorate. In this

why many of our choice vegetables have

been obtained. The practical stock-breed-

er's motto is, "Like produces like,"

and breeds from those animals only

which possess the points he wished perpet-

uated. Thus, if you select the earliest

peas from the earliest vines for a num-

ber of seasons, you can obtain a variety ripen-

ing several days earlier than that with which

you commenced. It has been done once,

and may be done again.

Place the seed vessels, as soon as gathered,

upon a cloth in the shade, so that

they may become perfectly dry; at which

time thrash out the seed, by means of a

small stick. Winnow out the chaff and

small or defective seed, and put the re-

mainder in drawers or small paper bags.—

Every kind should be labelled with its

name and the year when raised, in this

manner: "Early Salmon Radish, 1853."

This will prevent all possibility of the in-

experienced cultivator mistaking beet for

cabbage seed, or sowing that which, by

the lapse of time, has lost its power of ger-

mination. Keep these drawers or bags in

a cool, dry apartment, where no injury

may be apprehended from moisture or the

attacks of mice. With care, seed may be

preserved for several years, according to

the annexed table.

The vitality of seed, under favorable

circumstances, may be depended upon for

the following periods:

Parsnips, rhubarb, and other thin scaly

seed, for one year.

Balm, basil, beans, cardoon, carrot, cress,

Indian cress, lavender, leek, okra, onion,

peas, pepper, rampion, sage, salsify, savory,

moronera, thyme, tomato, wormwood,

and generally, for two years.

Artichoke, asparagus, corn, salad, egg

plant, enive, Indian corn, lettuce, marigold,

marjoram, mustard, parsley, rosemary, rue,

strat, spinach, and tansey, for three years.

Borage, borecole, broccoli, Brussels,

peas, cabbage, cauliflower, radish, sea

cole, tarragon and turnip, for four years.

Beet, horsetail, celery, chervil, cucumber,

dill, fennel, hyssop, melon, pumpkin, sorrel,

and squash, from five to eight or ten years.

Schenck's Gardener's Text Book.

Selected Cal.

From the Wexford Echo.

THE FAULT DETECTED;

OR, THE MOTE AND THE BEAM.

BY G. H. T.

"John, the most worthless man I ever heard," said Mr. Norris to his wife one evening, as he began to indulge in his favorite conversation. "I give him more than two dollars a month, than I did Bill Hoxie last season, and yet he will not perform half the labor. I set him at work this morning, and I declare if a boy ten years of age would not do as much, I would flog him when his work was done."

"This is not all," replied the mother, "I wonder she talks so at school when she hears such words at home. Her mother is a very slack woman, both in her conversation and in everything else. It is not surprising that her children are like her." "I do believe from what the children say," added the father, "that the master this winter is good for nothing. Willie says he has but thirty scholars, and he hears him read only twice in the forenoon and twice in the afternoon. I do not see what he finds to busy himself about. It seems to me that twelve dollars a month is too much for such a master."

From the above conversation the reader perhaps has already formed some idea of the character of Mr. Norris and his family. Mr. Norris was a member of the Baptist Church, and was once in good standing; but for the last few years a dark and ominous change had been gradually stealing over him. The principal cause of this change was owing to Mr. Norris' love for talking about the faults of others. To such an extent had he indulged in this pernicious habit, that he had nearly forgotten his own faults, or at least he concluded if he had any, they were so trivial in comparison with those of others, that they were entirely unworthy of notice. It made but little difference where he was, whether in the presence of his family, or among his neighbors, and of those with whom he was intimately acquainted, furnished topics for general conversation, but when from any cause these failed, he did not hesitate to draw freely from any source whatever—

At one time he would indulge in harsh and bitter invectives against his pastor; at another, against his brethren, until it was evident that he considered himself almost a saint whose lot had fallen in the midst of sin and corruption. The idea of paying his pastor a salary, while he was as well able to work for a living as himself, was perfectly intolerable. Against a measure so unjust he would even quote passages of scripture.

The consequence of pursuing such a course of life as this can be easily imagined. The fact was, Norris gradually became very unpopular. It was not unusual for him even to quarrel with his neighbors. On one occasion words passed so warmly between him and his neighbor Sam, that a clinch was the result; which would doubtless have ended in blows, had not the wife of the latter interfered. The injurious effect of this wrong and unnatural habit, could be seen, not only when he was in anger, but at length it became visible even in his very countenance. There the cheerful smile seldom lingered. The fountain of sympathy seemed almost exhausted—The most persevering efforts of his hired help to please him, were sure to fail.—Their best endeavors to gain his approbation, were either received in silence or met with a cold smile.

Nor was Norris the only sufferer. His pernicious example was exerting a powerful influence upon his wife and children. An instance of this we have already noticed.

It was now several months since Norris or any of his family had been at Church. One evening at the close of the week, while he sat by the fireside, indulging in his old habit, a gentle rap was heard at the door. Mr. Norris stepped forward, when to her surprise, she met Dea. Hunt.

"Good evening, madam; why, how do you do, brother Norris?"

By this time John had finished his supper.

"Come, Susan," said Mrs. Norris, to the hired girl, "hurry and clear off the table and wash the dishes."

An expression of joy now beamed from the languid countenance of Susan, as she hurried towards the cupboard with the tea-pot and sugar bowl, thinking that another day's work was about completed.

"See how slowly she moves," muttered Mrs. Norris lowly. "Irish girls are getting above doing housework. I believe that I had better dismiss mine and do my own work in future."

"I am positively determined," continued Mr. Norris, as he broke out anew, "to sue Mrs. Austen, if he don't keep out of my pasture. I have told him time and again to put up his wall or take care of his sheep, and yet I have kept them all of the season."

The conversation was again interrupted by the appearance of some half a dozen children, who up to this, had kept up a continual clatter with their bells and hoops in an adjoining room. "Father," exclaimed little Willie, assuming a dignified air, as if he was sure that he was about to say something that would meet with general approbation, "Tom Sherman got a dreadful flogging to-day. He kept throwing spit-balls about the school room. Finally the teacher caught him at it. If he didn't put it on to him I am mistaken—

Just as soon as the teacher's back was turned, he made up all kinds of faces at him."

"Father," cried Edward, who was impatient for his turn, "Bill Wood is the laziest scholar I ever see. He don't do nothing. He keeps whittling the bench or catching flies all the while. The teacher told him to stop whispering but he will whisper when he gets a chance."

Brother Norris, since we have just been speaking on the importance of being regularly at Church at all, allow me to say that your slip has been vacant during the last few Sundays."

"What is the use, Deacon, in going to Church at all. The members are all at variance with one another. They attempted to have a revival of religion a short time ago, and what was the result? why, some five or six 'came out,' and they are now as bad as ever. I don't believe they will ever be prospered until some of them, at least, are willing to acknowledge their errors—

Just see what a lie Dr. Berry told about Elder Gray; and see, too, how the Church proceeded in regard to the matter.

Instead of dealing with the old hypocrite as he deserves, he is allowed to hold his head



Mercury.

NEWPORT, R. I., SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 4, 1854.

NUMBER 4813.

Miscellaneous.

KEEPING DOGS.

Probably, no systematic dog account has ever been kept. No ledger view, or parallel and opposite considerations, of the pleasure and profit, the cost, trouble, vexation, noise, and disturbances, arising from the keeping of a family dog, have been fully observed. If such estimates and observations have been arrayed in contraposition, they must have been upon single-handed ledgers, where the items were not fully shown, or explicitly made known, or the book would have been speedily closed, and the subject thereof disposed of. By double entry, or by any system to detect errors and wrong impressions, the monthly trial balance-sheet would exhibit the great expense and folly of keeping that animal—

GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

PROVIDENCE Tuesday, Jan. 24.

SENATE.—Petition of William S. Wetmore et al., for incorporation of the Newport Reading Room. Read, granted, and act passed in concurrence with the House.

Petition of the Newport Historical Society for act of incorporation. Read and concurred in, with act for that purpose.

Petition of James H. Read for confirmation of title to certain real estate purchased of an alien. Read and concurred, with act for that purpose.

Petition of Eagle Screw Co. for amendment of charter. Granted and act passed.

Petition of the Pawtucket Institution for Savings, for amendment of charter—Granted and act passed.

Petition of the Providence, Warren and Bristol Railroad Corporation, for extension of time for locating and completing said road. Granted and act passed in concurrence.

The Senate, then in order to allow the members to pay their respects to Gen. Houston, adjourned to Wednesday at 10 o'clock.

House.—The Committee on Accounts, reported a resolution allowing sundry bills, amounting to \$536 78, which were ordered paid.

The Committee on Corporations, reported the petition of the New England Pacific Bank for amendment of charter, with a recommendation that the prayer of the bill be denied. Read and concurred in.

The petition of Isaac S. Whiteford, town treasurer of East Greenwich, for allowance of discount on State tax, was read and concurred in.

The petition of Isaac P. Hazard, et al., for incorporation of the Aquidneck Bank, read and referred to the Committee on Corporations. Adjourned.

House.—The Committee on the Judiciary, reported a resolution confirming the title of James H. Read to an estate purchased of an alien; which was read and concurred in.

The Committee on the Judiciary, reported a resolution appropriating \$330 for the purchase of a carpet for the House of Representatives. Read and passed.

Both Houses were honored with a visit from Gen. Houston, and the members were generally presented to him. He made a highly felicitous impromptu speech in the Senate.

PROVIDENCE, Wednesday, Feb. 1.

An act in relation to the laying out, enlarging, straightening, or otherwise altering streets in the city of Providence, (from the House). Passed to a second reading and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

The Senate concurred with the House in directing the payment of certain accounts against the State, recommended by the Committee on Accounts.

The dwelling houses within a circuit of a mile were more or less injured, having the glass entirely broken out, and in several instances the walls were damaged.—Mr. French's house, which is about thirty rods from the factory, was very much damaged, the windows and a portion of the furniture having been destroyed, and a second story front room was the only one which the family could occupy first night.

At the time of the accident Mr. French was engaged at work in a small building some fifteen rods distant, and narrowly escaped with his life. A furnace near where he was standing was broken to pieces, and his hat was carried away and could not be found; he also received several slight bruises about the face and body from missiles, which were hurled in every direction.

Upon the question, Shall the petitioner be allowed to withdraw? the House was divided, and the yeas and nays were as follows.—Ayes 52. Nays 6.

The Committee on Corporations, reported an act amending the charter of the Aquidneck Institution for Savings; which was read and passed. The amendment authorized the institution to receive deposits to the amount of \$800,000.

Committee on Corporations, reported resolutions continuing, with an order of notice, to the May session of the General Assembly, the petition of Daniel Bush and others, for the incorporation of the Bank of America, and the petition of Jessy L. Moss and others, for the incorporation of the Westerly Savings Bank; which was read and passed.

An act from the Senate, amending the act to provide additional revenue for the state was read and concurred in.

The following resolution, was read and adopted:

Resolved, That a special committee be appointed with instruction to report a bill abolishing imprisonment for debt in this state, and so amending the laws as to make real estate liable with personal to attachment upon execution issued from the Courts.

Also, that the said committee be directed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the laws for the collection of debts, as to limit all actions founded upon contract to a sum not less than five dollars, and that in any case where the amount recovered by the plaintiff does not exceed that sum, no costs shall be taxed against the defendant.

Messrs. Clarke, Peck, and Titus, were appointed said committee.

The Committee on Convicts Petitions, reported a resolution giving P. A. Bennett leave to withdraw her petition for the liberation of Zephaniah Bennett from the State Prison; which resolution was adopted.

The Committee on Education, reported back a resolution from the Senate authorizing the Commissioner of public schools to extend the time in which to complete the map of the State, which was read and passed in concurrence.

The Trustees of the Reform School, being directed to discharge Edward White, adjourned.

PROVIDENCE, Friday, Jan. 20.

SENATE.—Mr. Shepard introduced an act to repeal and annul the protest and resolutions passed at the March session of 1841, and directing the Secretary of State to expunge the same from the records of the State, and to transcribe a copy of this act to each of the Governors of the several States of the Union.

The bill was read, and a special order issued that it should be read the second time the same day, and put upon its passage. Ayes 5. Nays 8.—The act was therefore passed.

An act in amendment of an act passed the June session, 1851, entitled "An act concerning partition and estates held in common and joint tenancy," was also reported by the Judiciary Committee, and read and passed to a second reading.

Mr. Bradley introduced an act in amendment of an act regulating proceedings in suits. The act was read, passed to a second reading, and ordered to be printed.

Adjourned to Monday, at three o'clock.

House.—The Committee on State Property, reported a resolution appropriating \$100 to complete certain repairs on the port-house in the county of Newport; which was read and passed.

Resolution of Mr. Potter, the resolutions 1. on the Senate, protesting against the violation of the Missouri compromise, were taken up, read, and adopted without discussion or a division.

Mr. Cranston, of Newport, had leave of presence for the remainder of the session. Adjourned until Monday afternoon, at three o'clock.

PROVIDENCE Monday, Jan. 30.

SENATE.—The Senate met at 3 o'clock, and, pursuant to adjournment, and there being no quorum present for the transaction of business, adjourned to Tuesday at ten o'clock. A. M.

House.—Several private petitions were read upon, and Mr. J. H. Weeden introduced resolutions in relation to the Old State Debt.

The Committee on Corporations, reported the petition of Chuncey Bush, et al., for incorporation of Tower Mining Company. Read and concurred.

Secretary—Robert H. Ives.

Prov. Post.

The President has ordered a Court of Inquiry to inquire into all the facts relative to the wreck of the steamer San Francisco, the conduct of the army officers and the troops on board, &c. The Court will sit at New York on the 1st Monday in February, and will consist of Major General Winfield Scott, President; General Stanton, of the Quarter-Master's Department; and Colonel Sumner, of the Dragoons.

EAGLE.—Mr. Andrew Story, of the town of Essex, caught an eagle a few days since, which measured eight feet from tip to tip of his wings, thirty-six inches from the head to the end of his tail, and weighing twelve pounds. The old fellow was taken at Mr. Story's house, in a steel trap, and is now alive and in fine health and spirits.

Salem Gazette.

Perham's gift lottery has been abandoned, and holders of tickets are notified that they can complicate their tickets at 75 cents on the dollar.

ANOTHER POWDER MILL EXPLOSION.—

Fifteen Persons Killed.—Saturday afternoon, about two o'clock, the building known as French's Ball Carpet Factory, situated at Lower Ravenswood, L. I., blew up with a tremendous report, shaking the houses in the neighborhood for two miles around, and instantly killing fifteen out of eighteen persons supposed to have been in it at the time.

So great was the shock, that a report was current in Williamsburgh during the afternoon, that an earthquake had taken place somewhere on the island.

The number of persons employed is generally about thirty, being for the most part girls of the age of ten to eighteen; but some men and youths also find work in the factory.

The site of the building and the surrounding lots were covered with the debris of the building, human limbs, and fragments of machinery, here and there head, there an arm, and all sorts of blood and entrails, and shreds of clothing, all blackened and burnt so that identification is impossible. One man drew from the mass the head of a little girl which he new was that of his daughter by a bit of ribbon fastened to the hair; but any other portion of the body he would never find, or if he found it he would never be able to say it was the body of his child. The house of Mr. Moses is a white house, about four hundred feet distant, and against the rear of this human arm from the shoulder down was carried with force; and his left foot exact imprint in blood and charcoal on the surface.

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SPECIAL NOTICES

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Another column will be found in the advertisement of Hobbes' Medicines, to which we refer for the names of all directly interested in their own as well as their children's health.

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